

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A cafeteria tray accumulator includes a plurality of tray holding cages that are suspended from a drive track that moves in a loop with one transverse leg disposed above another transverse leg. Each tray-holding cage includes a plurality of shelves that hold cafeteria trays on above the other. A counterbalance mechanism is used to prevent the cages from swaying back and forth. The counterbalance mechanism may be an offset rail or a wheel carried by the cage that engages a support structure. The accumulator has increased tray capacity because of the multiple tray-holding cages and the two transverse legs of the drive path.